

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 SSM-03 AF-08 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /080 W  
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2696  
INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 4304

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR EG IS US  
SUBJ: AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S COMMENTS TO NATIONAL COUNCIL OF  
JEWISH WOMEN

SUMMARY: FONMIN FAHMY IS SURPRISED AT REMARKS  
BY AMBASSADOR YOUNG CONCERNING ISRAELI RELATIONS  
WITH AFRICA AS REPORTED IN NEW YORK  
TIMES MARCH 11. HE THINKS REMARKS WERE  
"ILL ADVISED". END SUMMARY

1. MORNING OF MARCH 14 FONMIN FAHMY'S OFFICE  
DIRECTOR OSAMA AL-BAZ ASKEC CHARGE TO CALL AT REQUEST  
OF FONMIN. AL-BAZ SAID THAT FAHMY HAD ASKED HIM TO  
RAISE WITH ME A NEW YORK TIMES REPORT OF MARCH 11  
CONCERNING AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S MEETING WITH AN  
ORGANIZATION THAT AL-BAX TRANSLATED FROM ARABIC  
AS "NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN".

2. READING FROM A REPORTING TELEGRAM IN ARABIC,  
AL-BAZ DESCRIBED AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S REMARKS  
AS FOLLOWS:  
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ISRAEL HAS PAID THE PRICE FOR THE INDIGNATION  
OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES ABOUT US POLICIES IN AFRICA.  
ISRAEL HAS BEEN BLAMED FOR ITS ASSOCIATION WITH THE  
U.S. AFRICAN REPRESENTATIVES HAVE ASSURED  
AMBASSADOR YOUNG OF THEIR ADMIRATION OF ISRAEL.  
WHEN THE US USES ITS VETO WITH RESPECT TO UN  
RESOLUTIONS RELATED TO AFRICA, AFRICAN COUNTRIES

FEEL THEY CANNOT RETALIATE AGAINST US BECAUSE THE US IS TOO POWERFUL; THEY THEREFORE DIRECT THEIR ANGER AGAINST ISRAEL AS THE SMALLEST ALLY OF THE US. AS THE POLICIES OF THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION TOWARD AFRICAN PROBLEMS ARE CHANGING, THE SENTIMENT OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES TOWARD ISRAEL WILL ALSO DEFINITELY CHANGE.

3. AL-BAZ SAID THAT FAHMY WISHED TO CONVEY HIS SURPRISE THAT AMBASSADOR WOULD PLAY THE ROLE OF TRYING TO RESTORE RELATIONS BETWEEN ISRAEL AND AFRICAN COUNTRIES. WHILE EGYPT IS NOT WORRIED THAT SUCH EFFORTS WOULD BEAR FRUIT. IT BELIEVED SUCH STATEMENTS WERE ILL ADVISED FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

- A. THEY COULD NOT ACHIEVE ANYTHING;
- B. THEY ARE NOT TRUE;
- C. THEY WERE BASED ON FALSE PREMISES; AND
- D. AFRICAN COUNTRIES ARE IN CONFLICT WITH ISRAEL BECAUSE ISRAEL IS OCCUPYING PART OF TERRITORY OF AN AFRICAN COUNTRY (I POINTED OUT THE SINAI IS IN ASIA NOT AFRICA) AS WELL AS THAT OF TWO OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES AND BECAUSE OF ISRAEL'S TOTAL IDENTIFICATION WITH SOUTH AFRICA.

4. AL-BAZ SAID THAT FAHMY FOUND IT UPSETTING THAT AMBASSADOR YOUNG HAD ACTED AS A BROKER FOR ISRAEL WITH THE AFRICAN COUNTRIES.

5. I TOLD AL-BAZ THAT WHILE I HAD SEEN NO REPORT OF CONFIDENTIAL

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AMBASSADOR'S YOUNG'S REMARKS, I WAS MOST RELUCTANT TO REPORT THE COMMENTS HE HAD MADE ON BEHALF OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY SINCE I SAW NO REASON WHY AMBASSADOR YOUNG SHOULD NOT DISCUSS ISRAELI RELATIONS WITH AFRICAN COUNTRIES BEFORE A JEWISH ORGANIZATION, PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF THE ANTI-ISRAELI RHETORIC IN THE DOCUMENTS RESULTING FROM THE JUST CONCLUDED AFRO-ARAB SUMMIT.

6. I ADDED WE DO NOT AGREE WITH THE ATTEMPTS TO ISOLATE ISRAEL AND THAT I DID NOT SEE WHY EGYPT SHOULD OBJECT TO AMBASSADOR'S YOUNG'S REMARKS. AL-BAZ QUICKLY SAID THAT FAHMY WAS NOT PROTESTING AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S STATEMENTS BUT SIMPLY WISHED TO CONVEY HIS VIEWS THAT THEY WERE ILL ADVISED.

7. I CONCLUDED THAT I WOULD OF COURSE REPORT THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S VIEWS IF THAT IS WHAT THE FOREIGN MINISTER WISHED, AND AL-BAZ ASKED THAT I DO SO.

8. COMMENT: WHILE EGYPT IS AN ARAB COUNTRY IT  
ALSO IS EAGER TO PLAY ITS ROLE AS A LEADING AFRICAN  
STATE. I SUGGEST THAT WE TAKE NO FURTHER NOTICE  
OF THE EGYPTIAN STATEMENTS REPORTED ABOVE.  
MATTHEWS

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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** PFOR, EG, IS, US, XA, (YOUNG, ANDREW), (AL-BAZ, USAMA), (FAHMY, ISMAIL)  
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